

# INTRODUCTION

The annual Criminal Justice Profile series supplements and expands on the data provided in the Criminal Justice Statistics Center's (CJSC) "Crime and Delinquency in California." There is a separate Criminal Justice Profile for each county and the state. Most of the data included in these publications are reported to the CJSC by state and local agencies. Other sources are noted.

Each Criminal Justice Profile focuses on a single county or the state as a whole. Each publication has three sections:

- **Criminal Justice Trend Data.** Trend data are presented for crimes, arrests, arrest dispositions, adult probation, jail populations, criminal justice personnel, and expenditures for the most recent 10 years (1990-1999).
- **Current Year Data.** This section focuses on the most recent data year. In the Statewide Profile, the current data are presented for each county. In each county profile, the data are presented for each contributing jurisdiction.
- **Appendix.** This section contains: (1) data characteristics and known limitations; (2) a glossary of criminal justice terms used in the publication; and (3) lists of the penal and other statutory codes that are included in each of the felony and misdemeanor arrest offense categories.

## SPECIAL NOTES

A number of factors can influence crime counts in particular jurisdictions. The following factors should be considered when using crime statistics, especially for comparative purposes.

- Variations in composition of the population, particularly age structure.
- Population density and size of the locality and its surrounding area.
- Stability of population with respect to residents' mobility, commuting patterns, and transient factors.
- Modes of transportation and the highway system.
- Economic conditions, including median income and job availability.
- Cultural conditions, such as education, recreation, and religious characteristics.
- Family conditions with respect to divorce and family cohesiveness.
- Effective strength of law enforcement agencies.
- Administrative and investigative emphases of law enforcement.
- Policies of other components of the criminal justice system (i.e., prosecutorial, judicial, correctional, and probational).
- Attitudes of citizenry toward crime.
- Crime reporting practices of citizenry.

Crime and arrest rates are calculated using annual population estimates provided by the Demographic Research Unit, California Department of Finance.

## Special Requests

Data not provided in this publication may be available from the CJSC by special request.

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